Appl. Serial No. 09/785,457
Amendment dated March 30, 2005
Reply to Office Action of January 13, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A method of constructing directories in terminals connected by a local area network, said method including the following steps following on automatically from a given terminal being connected with said network :

(a) broadcasting a message from [[a]] said given terminal in the network, the broadcast message containing at least a name and an address of said given terminal,

(b) in at least one other terminal, decoding said broadcast message, extracting from it a name and an address of said given terminal, inserting the extracted name and address in mapping relationship into a directory of said other terminal, and transmitting a response message containing the address of said given terminal as a receiver address extracted from said broadcast message and at least a name and an address of said other terminal extracted from said broadcast message, and

(c) decoding only in said given terminal when said given terminal has recognized said address of said given terminal in said response message in said given terminal, extracting said name and said address of said other terminal from the decoded said response message, and inserting the extracted name and address in mapping relationship into a directory of said given terminal.

Claim 2. (original claim) The method claimed in claim 1, wherein said given terminal and plural other terminals in said network define a group of terminals associated with an identifier, and

2

Appl. Serial No. 09/785,457
Amendment dated March 30, 2005
Reply to Office Action of January 13, 2005

said broadcast message includes said identifier so that only said plural other terminals decode said broadcast message to extract from it said name and said address of said given terminal.

    Claim 3. (original claim) The method claimed in claim 1, wherein said broadcast message and said response message each include a directory construction function field.

    Claim 4. (previously amended) The method claimed in claim 1, wherein said address contained in said broadcast message or in said response message includes at least an electronic mail address of said sender terminal.

    Claim 5 (cancelled)